

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 13895 070401Z  
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11  
OMB-01 DRC-01 SY-05 /073 W  
-----118252 070407Z /14/14

R 020602Z AUG 78  
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0069  
INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL  
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI  
AMCONSUL HONG KONG  
USLO PEKING  
COMUSJAPAN YOKOTA JA  
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (EO AND REFERENCE)

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: NA  
TAGS: PINT, MARR, JA  
SUBJECT: KURISU DISMISSAL AFTERMATH

REF: TOKYO 13490 (DTG 260922Z JUL 78)

1. SUMMARY: RECENTLY DISMISSED JOINT STAFF COUNCIL  
CHAIRMAN KURISU MAY HAVE LOST BATTLE BUT WON WAR, JUDGING  
FROM LDP AND GOJ DECISIONS TO EXPEDITE STUDIES OF LEGISLA-  
TION GOVERNING USE OF SELF-DEFENSE FORCES (SDF) DURING  
EMERGENCY. END SUMMARY

2. GENERAL HIROOMI KURISU'S CONTROVERSIAL REMARKS ABOUT  
"EXTRA-LEGAL" EMERGENCY ACTIONS BY SDF (REFTEL) POSED TOO  
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PAGE 02 TOKYO 13895 070401Z

BLATANT CHALLENGE TO PRINCIPLE OF CIVILIAN CONTROL OF  
MILITARY FOR HIS CIVILIAN BOSSES TO IGNORE. NEVERTHELESS,  
UNIFORMED OFFICERS WIDELY SHARE KURISU'S BASIC CRITICISM  
OF EXISTING LAWS DURING EMERGENCY: ACCORDING TO PRESS,  
IMMEDIATELY AFTER FIRING KURISU DEF DIRGEN KANEMARU SENT  
MESSAGE TO FIELD COMMANDERS PROMISING ACTION ON THIS ISSUE.

3. MOREOVER, ON JULY 25 LDP EXECUTIVE BOARD DECIDED TO STUDY POSSIBILITY OF REPAIRING DEFECTS IN LEGAL LIMITS TO SDF ACTION IN EMERGENCIES, WHILE TREADING VERY CAUTIOUSLY ON QUESTION OF ENDORSING "EXTRA-LEGAL" ACTIONS.

4. ON JULY 28 CABINET ACKNOWLEDGED KANEMARU'S SACKING OF KURISU AND CONFIRMED GEN TAKEHIKO TAKASHIMA AS SUCCESSOR. AT SAME TIME, HOWEVER, AT URGING OF PARLIAMENTARY VICE MINISTERS WHO HAD MET PREVIOUS DAY, PM FUKUDA INSTRUCTED CONCERNED AGENCIES TO SPEED UP THEIR IN-PROGRESS STUDIES OF LEGISLATION PERTINENT TO DEFENSE EMERGENCIES. FUKUDA HAD DIRECTED SIMILAR INSTRUCTION SPECIFICALLY TO DEFENSE AGENCY (JDA) PREVIOUS DAY, IN TACIT ADMISSION THAT EXISTING LEGISLATION ABOUT WHICH KURISU HAD COMMENTED WAS IN FACT DEFECT IN NATION'S DEFENSE.

5. COMMENT: TO DATE, PRESS PLAY HAS BEEN EVEN-HANDED AND HAS AVOIDED RAISING SPECTER OF RESURGENT MILITARISM, WHICH WOULD HAVE BEEN MAJOR THEME OF EDITORIALS NOT TOO LONG AGO. WHILE KURISU HAD TO BE FIRED IN DEFENSE OF PRINCIPLE OF CIVILIAN CONTROL, LDP AND GOJ DECISIONS TO EXPEDITE STUDIES OF LEGISLATION TO COPE WITH DEFENSE EMERGENCIES HAVE LARGELY VINDICATED OUTSPOKEN GENERAL. KANEMARU HAS STATED INTRODUCTION OF BILL WAS UNLIKELY IN NEXT REGULAR SESSION OF DIET BEGINNING LATE DECEMBER, BUT DEFENSE INTELLECTUALS AND PRESS ARE LIKELY TO KEEP POT BOILING DURING MONTHS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 TOKYO 13895 070401Z

AHEAD. IF NOTHING ELSE, KURISU HAS CHARGED BATTERIES OF DEFENSE ESTABLISHMENT AND MAY WELL HAVE IMPROVED CHANCES FOR IMPORTANT CHANGE IN SDF'S LEGAL ENVIRONMENT. MANSFIELD

NOTE BY OC/T: DRC & SY TAKE AS ORIGINAL. ALL OTHERS TAKE AS CORRECTED COPY.

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY PERSONNEL, MILITARY PLANS, REMOVAL FROM OFFICE  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 02 aug 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978TOKYO13895  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** DG ALTERED  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780332-0097, D780317-0338  
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**Reference:** 78 TOKYO 13490  
**Retention:** 0  
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**Review Content Flags:**  
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**Review Event:**  
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**Subject:** KURISU DISMISSAL AFTERMATH  
**TAGS:** PINT, MARR, JA, (KURISU, HIROOMI)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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